Our ship-based expedition will bring together more than 100 high school and university students from around the world with inspiring scientists, elders, artists, musicians, dignitaries, authors and innovators. Immersed in nature and engaged in cross-disciplinary activity, students will be inspired, motivated, educated and challenged.

The 2016 Arctic Expedition begins in Canada’s capital city, Ottawa. After several days of pre-expedition activities, we fly to Kuujjuaq, Quebec to board our expedition vessel and set sail to explore the communities, coasts, fiords, bays and islands of the Canadian Arctic before crossing the Davis Strait to explore the western coast of Greenland.

The expedition will sail around southeastern Baffin Island with visits to the communities of Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq and explore the breathtaking Auyuittuq National Park. In Greenland we will explore a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Illulisat Icefjord, before sailing south to the quaint fishing town of Itilleq. Our expedition will end in Kangerlussuaq, where we will board our charter flight back to Ottawa.

Each day will be filled with exploration, discovery, presentations, workshops, hands-on research, hikes, and lots of adventure! Activities will include wildlife encounters, visits to Arctic communities, as well as the opportunity to acquire first-hand knowledge and insight into the dynamics of climate change, traditional knowledge, scientific research, policy and other important Arctic and global topics.

The 16th annual Students on Ice Arctic Expedition will be a profound hands-on experience for youth to expand their knowledge of the changing circumpolar world, foster a new understanding and respect for the planet, and gain the inspiration and motivation needed to help lead us to a healthy and sustainable future.
The greatest classrooms on Earth

Through inspiring educational opportunities at the ends of the Earth, Students on Ice fosters a new understanding and respect for the planet.

Students on Ice (SOI) is an award-winning organization offering unique educational expeditions to the Antarctic and the Arctic.

Our goal is to provide students with a transformative experience in one of the most fascinating, wild and awe-inspiring places on Earth.

SOI believes that the Polar Regions are the world’s greatest classrooms and tremendous platforms for education in history, culture, science, political, social and environmental issues. Since 2000, SOI has taken more than 2,500 students and educators from 52 countries to the Polar Regions.

Why the arctic?

The Arctic is a deeply essential part of our Planet. It illuminates our history and is a cornerstone of our global ecosystem and our future. It is a homeland, wilderness, frontier, laboratory and classroom. It is on the frontlines of environmental, cultural, political, social and economic change. There is a perfect storm of challenge and opportunity facing the Arctic. Just as it has shaped us, we are now shaping it.

The Arctic offers Students on Ice a powerful and experiential learning environment. One that connects youth with the natural world in a profound way and inspires them to understand the complexities of these challenges and opportunities, and empowers them to explore the ideas, actions and solutions needed for a sustainable future.

“Students on Ice Arctic Expedition offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for youth, from both the north and south, to become engaged in the discussion and decisions about the future of the Arctic. What better place to do it than on a journey through the Arctic? Will we continue to react to events as they unfold, or will we be leaders in the race to chart the region’s economic, environmental and cultural future?”

Ed Struzik, award-winning Arctic journalist and author

“Being around Inuit and learning more about my culture and the way of life of our elders helped me connect to my home. The experience changed the way I look at the world and the importance of my culture in it.”

Chaim Anderson, Nain, NL – Student on Arctic 2014
The SOI Alumni program provides ongoing support through mentorship, educational and networking opportunities. Joined with a vast network of global leaders, alumni are making a difference within their communities and beyond.

SOI expeditions have helped inspire alumni to:

- Define career goals and pursue dreams
- Earn scholarships and research grants
- Form global youth groups to tackle social and environmental issues
- Become globally-minded ambassadors & leaders

- Collaborate with partners, policy and decision makers to protect and sustainably develop the Polar Regions
- Develop advancements in green technology
- Share their experiences through presentations, media, writing books and producing documentaries
“Over the past 15 years, Students on Ice has benefited the Arctic, its people, and youth worldwide in profound and unique ways. SOI reminds each of us that we need to get involved for the sake of our planet.”

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, Honorary Chair of the Students on Ice Foundation

STUDENTS ON ICE

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